

REMARKS

The claims are 1 and 3-7 with claim 1 being the sole independent claim.

Claim 1 has been amended to add to it the subject matter of claim 2. Support for this amendment may be found, inter alia, in the specification at page 53, line 16.

Reconsideration of the present claims is expressly requested.

Claims 1 and 3-7 were rejected over the art cited and for the reasons expressed in paragraphs 8-10 of the outstanding Official Action. Claim 2 was found allowable if rewritten in independent form. To expedite prosecution, the subject matter of claim 2 has been added to claim 1.

Claim 1 now requires an epoxy-modified resol type-phenolic resin having both addition and condensation structure. The phenol-aldehyde resol type phenolic resin reacts with the compound having at least two epoxy groups to provide the crosslinked resin. See specification pages 11-13 and page 53, line 16.

Wherefore, since no other issues are outstanding in this case, Applicants respectfully request that claims 1 and 3-7 be allowed and that the present case be passed to issue.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Saxon", written over a horizontal line.

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